ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

It appears Montana will receive about the same amount of Federal money for FFY89 that we had for FFY88, with a small increase in the Emergency Management Assistance program. Hopefully, we will know by October 1, 1988.

I would like to share a couple of concerns of mine that would affect all of the counties and cities that are now receiving EMA funding in the future. FEMA National is now allocating EMA funds using a new formula. One of the factors the formula is based on is population figures. This coming year (FY89) they put in a hold harmless clause, which prevented them from reducing our EMA allocation. If this clause is removed for FY90, Montana will take a cut in this program.

The other concern is; if a local jurisdiction now receiving EMA funds loses its funding because the Federal requirement for exercising or updating plans is not met, the population loss of that jurisdiction will further reduce our allocation.

These two things cannot happen, we do not receive enough EMA funding now to meet our requirements.

- George M. DeWolf -

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CONTACT
Sept. 1	MDESCA Executive Committee Meeting	Helena	Monty Sealey
13	State Communication Exercise	Helena	Kate Selby
28	APCO Meeting	Missoula	Homer Young
30	National Guard Appreciation Day	Powell Co.	Earl Wahl
Oct. 4-5	Malmstrom AFB Exercise	Lewis & Clark Co.	Paul Spengler
11-13	Region 8 State Director's Meeting	Cheyenne, WY	George DeWolf
Nov. 14-18	Intro. to Emergency Mgmt. Course	Rapid City, SD	Kate Selby
Dec. 5	Dam Safety Workshop	Great Falls	*
6	Dam Safety Workshop	Glasgow	*
6-8	Exercise Design Course	Great Falls	Kate Selby
7	Dam Safety Workshop	Miles City	*
9	Dam Safety Workshop	Missoula	*

*** For more information on the times and locations of these workshops, contact Mike Oelrich, DNR&C, at 444-6613.**

EMA REQUIREMENTS

The close of the federal fiscal year is fast coming upon us. The two major requirements of the EMA funding program are the update of the emergency operations plans and the exercise program.

All EMA jurisdictions are to have a current EOP by the end of FY88. The EOP is to be exercised in accordance with the state and local exercise program guidelines. It is imperative that the exercise be documented on the FEMA Form 95-16 and forwarded through the District Representatives to the State Office.

- Chris Christensen-

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TO GLOW OR NOT TO GLOW...

I just wanted to reiterate the comments I made in the May newsletter concerning the radiological instruments. This Federal Fiscal Year, FFY89, we will begin the policy of providing radiological instruments based on need and training. We will not re-issue a monitor set unless an individual is trained to use it and know it's limitations. This policy will effect District 1 jurisdictions only during this fiscal year. We do not have the budget available to implement this policy statewide, so we must do it over several years. District 3 will be in FFY90; District 4 in FFY91; and District 2 in FFY92; unless a change in budget dictates we accomplish it faster (or slower). If jurisdictions in District 2, 3 or 4 would like a Radiological Response Class or planning assistance, please make requests through your District Representative. We will support you if we can.

- Dan Lieberg -

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HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING SARA TITLE III

The federal funding for hazardous material training has been forwarded to the states. The Integrated Approach to Hazardous Material Response will again be offered throughout Montana. Enclosed with this newsletter is a course announcement including the dates and locations. The announcement has been designed for your use in participant recruitment and can be readily copied for distribution to interested agencies and individuals. Last year, over 900 emergency responders attended this course. Your assistance in advertising the course is appreciated.

Fourteen (14) two-day Incident Command Courses will be conducted throughout Montana. As with the Integrated Approach to Hazardous Material Course, there will be no registration fee. The Incident Command Course is targeted for emergency responders with a role in hazardous materials response. Enclosed is a course announcement that can be used in recruiting for the course.

- Chris Christensen-

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1988 DROUGHT DECLARATIONS

Once again, crops in many counties are affected by the drought. Damage has been compounded by grasshoppers and/or hail damage. As of August 15, 1988, the Governor has declared forty-one (41) counties as drought disaster areas. The Governor's declaration is a prerequisite for receiving a drought disaster declaration from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Farmers Home "Emergency Loan" program.

Although the county requests to the Governor started arriving in early

May, and have been routinely transmitted to USDA when received, no action has been taken by USDA to declare any Montana counties as of August 18, 1988.

Early county requests did not include adequate supporting statistics (Damage Assessment Reports) on the degree of crop loss for USDA to make a declaration. Damage Assessment Reports cannot be prepared by the county USDA emergency boards until information on the degree of drought damage can be obtained. This information is generally generated **after** harvest in August.

County requests submitted without Damage Assessment Reports are not acted on until these reports catch up to the drought declaration. Early county action to submit requests may take some political heat off county commissioners, but they do not speed up the process.

- Jan Henry-

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MALTA HAZARD MITIGATION

Although the flooding in September of 1986 did not cause the levee protecting a portion of Malta to go out, concern about its ability to withstand a similar occurrence is still a priority. The City of Malta has requested that the Corps of Engineers implement a Section 14 project, which requires a federal-local cost share of 75-25%. This project would require the city to fund $26,500.00 of the construction costs and obtain the necessary right-of-way for construction.

The project will provide protection for a part of the city sewer system, which was threatened by flooding in 1986. The city requested and received from the Governor a commitment of $25,000.00 to assist in mitigating the effects of future flooding and it will pick up the balance of the 25%. Final paperwork is being completed by the city to enter into a Local Cooperative Agreement with the Corps of Engineers. Local officials believe that construction could start as early as fall of 1988, if everything goes well with the Corps.

This is the first time that funds from the Governor's "Disaster Fund" have been used for hazard mitigation purposes. With the proposed changes to Public Law 93-288, prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to fund hazard mitigation, and this farsighted action by the state, it appears that the concept of mitigating hazards will finally get some financial assistance.

- Jan Henry-

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DISASTER AND EMERGENCY PLAN REVISED

The State Disaster and Emergency Plan has been revised and is currently being printed. Distribution to all plan holders at the local level will be done by the respective DES District Representatives.

Since the plan needed a general updating, the addition of a new state department and capabilities and recognition of changed responsibilities, the whole plan will be rereplaced. This will probably be done in late September or early October.

- Jan Henry-

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EMA REIMBURSEMENT

Is your county suffering the "financial crunch"? A sure way to help them out and to alleviate a portion of the financial burden is by the timely

submission of the Emergency Management Assistance billings. The sooner they are received in our office, the faster they are processed for reimbursement. We are nearing the end of the Federal Fiscal Year - if your EMA billings are in arrears, bring them up to date-mail them in today...

- Linda Cottrill-

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SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION

Announcing...the State and Local Emergency Management Data User's Group Software Development Competition.

Have you been searching for innovative ways to use a computer? Have you written a program or developed a macro that makes a machine do some of your work? Well, here is a chance to blow your own horn and get credit for your achievement.

Software developed for the competition must be: useful to emergency managers, original or an original application of a commercial software package, and completely documented for prospective users. Software submitted for this competition must remain shareware or freeware.

Winners will be invited to demonstrate their software at the State and Local Emergency Management Data User's Group Conference in April 1989. Prizes will be awarded to the top three contestants.

- Mary Arnold -

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MEET YOU IN MISSOULA

The Montana Chapter of the Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers, Inc. (APCO) is holding a regular chapter meeting in Missoula on September 28, 1988. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn (formally the Sheraton), 200 South Pattee.

For those unfamiliar with APCO, it is a national organization whose membership is comprised of professionals, from the administrative to the operator level, who deal with public-safety communications. This includes Civil Defense/Disaster and Emergency Services professionals.

The Montana Chapter provides frequency coordination for all users of police and local government frequencies in Montana. They also provide instructors and input to the curriculum for the dispatcher/operator training course conducted at the Law Enforcement Academy in Bozeman.

In conjunction with the Chapter meeting, Alster Communications of Boise, Idaho, will be hosting a communications and electronics show. Seminars on microwave transmission line and land mobile site management will be conducted from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and displays of radio equipment will be open from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Chapter meeting and the Alster Communication show are open to all interested parties. Feel free to attend the meeting and show, I think you will find the trip worth your while.

- Homer Young -

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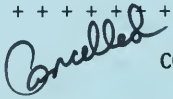

COMEX/88

The 2nd annual disaster exercise for State Government will be conducted on Tuesday, September 13. Participating organizations include:

Dept. of Institutions
Dept. of Justice

Dept. of Highways
Montana National Guard
Montana Disaster & Emergency Services
Dept. of Natural Res. & Conservation
Montana University System
Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Dept. of Health & Environ. Sciences
Dept. of Labor
Dept. of Administration
RACES - National Weather Service
American Red Cross

The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated and two of the primary functions to be practiced are warning and backup emergency communications. This exercise is planned as the state's warm up for next year's national security exercise.

Because the exercise focuses on communication and involves many of the field personnel of participating organizations, and local agencies, citizens in your community may hear rumblings of "expected ashfall," "phone lines down," "seismic activity" or "an earthquake in Helena" throughout that day. All messages transmitted during the exercise via any means should contain the words "this is an exercise message" at the beginning and end of each message. Also, there will be several news releases circulated prior to September 13, informing the public of the plans for the exercise. It is hoped that this will decrease the potential for confusion on the part of the listening public concerning actual versus simulated events.

- Kate Selby -

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RADEF EQUIPMENT EXCHANGES

In Federal Fiscal Year 1989, which begins October 1, 1988, the RADEF section will be working in District I. We will exchange monitor sets and having them centrally located at the EOC will help in this exchange.

For better accountability, all RADEF sets will be accounted for on a hand-receipt to the county coordinator. Also, we will review with you the new RADEF plan.

When visiting your county, we would support a radiological monitoring training course. The exact dates of when we will visit your county will be published at a later date. Thank you for your support.

RADEF

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DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF FY88 EXERCISES

Montana's EMA funded jurisdictions have until September 30, 1988, to comply with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) FY88 exercise requirements.

This means that jurisdictions must complete a functional exercise and submit an exercise report (FEMA Form 95-16) no later than October 15, 1988. All reports must be sent through DES District Representatives to the State Office in Helena.

FEMA's penalty for not meeting exercise requirements is loss of Emergency Management Assistance (EMA) funding by the jurisdiction.

A Full-Scale Exercise or an actual occurrence of a disaster, requiring local response, could qualify as a substitute for a Functional Exercise.

However, a 95-16 exercise report still must be submitted.

Contact your District Representative or Kate Selby for more information.

- Kate Selby -

FALL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COURSES

There are two training activities, which will be available to local coordinators and other state and local emergency management officials during the 1st quarter of Federal Fiscal Year 1989.

Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division plans to send three individuals to the Introduction to Emergency management Course being offered by South Dakota Emergency Disaster Services. The course will be held in Rapid City, November 14-18, 1988.

Additionally, there will be an Exercise Design Course offered in Great Falls, December 6-8, 1988. Interested jurisdictions are encouraged to be represented by teams consisting of two to five individuals. The early scheduling of the Exercise Design Course provides an excellent opportunity for local coordinators to get a head start on the design of FY89 exercises.

Over 1,000 public safety-related organizations throughout Montana shall receive regional training brochures and a fall schedule of FY89 emergency management courses during the month of October. However, applications for either of the two offerings previewed above should be mailed to the State DES office as early as possible.

Student expenses for travel and per diem are reimbursed by the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division at current state rates.

For applications or more information call Kate at 444-6911 in Helena.

- Kate Selby -

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Paul Spengler, Lewis & Clark County, 443-1010, Ext. 285, has 4 sirens, 115 Db, 3 Phase, $300 each, for sale.

AMERICAN RED CROSS EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLE

Recently the national organization of the American Red Cross has placed a Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) in Montana for use during disaster situations in the northern Rocky Mountain region. The ERV is based in Helena at the Lewis & Clark County Chapter, but has been placed in Montana for all of us.

The Red Cross ERV has been custom designed to respond effectively to a wide range of disaster situations. The vehicle provides the following services at a disaster site:

o Mass feeding of disaster victims, serving up to 350 hot meals from its six 24 quart insulated food containers and six 5 gallon hot and cold beverage containers.

o Functioning as a mobile office for disaster victim interviews.

o Field support as a mobile canteen, communications center, office or supply van. The ERV has fully self-contained communication, electrical, heating and air conditioning systems which allow all of its field support activities to take place anywhere, regardless of land line availability.

The ERV is an integral part of our response capabilities here in Montana and the Northern Rockies. As with any emergency resource, its deployment is in response to legitimate need.

If you desire further information on the Red Cross ERV or any of the disaster relief programs carried out by the Red Cross, please contact the Field Service Manager at 727-2212.

(This article is reprinted at the request of Ray Mohney of the American Red Cross.)

DISTRICT I HIGHLIGHTS

1. The big news, of course, is forest fires and drought. Despite the lack of recognition in the media, local DES has been extensively involved in several major fires. Examples in District I include the Smith Lake fire in Flathead County (Kim Potter, DES Coordinator) and the Warm Springs Creek fire in Jefferson County (Jim McCauley, DES Coordinator).

2. The Emergency Services Institute of Mental Health has recently published three new publications on the problem of stress faced by front-line responders to natural and technological disasters. Intended for police, fire, and emergency medical personnel, the publications are designed to provide emergency service workers with concepts and strategies useful in addressing human responses to mass emergencies.

- Prevention and Control of Stress Among Emergency Workers: A Pamphlet for Team Managers (DHHS Publication (ADM) 87-1496)

- Prevention and Control of Stress Among Emergency Workers: A Pamphlet for Workers (DHHS Publication (ADM) 87-1497)

- Human Problems in Disasters: A Training Curriculum for Emergency Medical Personnel (DHHS Publication (ADM) 87-1505).

Single copies of each of the publications are available at no cost from the Division of Education and Service Systems Liaison, Emergency Services Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

3. Several DES coordinators from District I and the administrative assistant to the Flathead County Commissioners toured the Hanford nuclear reservation near Richland, WA on August 11. Local officials in Western Montana, especially since the disaster at Chernobyl, but even before that, have periodically expressed concern about the effects of the response to a major incident at Hanford. Two nuclear reactors are currently in operation at Hanford, which is also the site of high level nuclear waste disposal. The tour included briefings and question and answer sessions with U.S. government and private industry officials. Responses to questions regarding warning fanout to state and local government in Montana were not reassuring. (This past December, several District I counties participated in an exercise involving a simulated terrorist attack at Hanford. The possibility of a terrorist attack was acknowledged as a major concern of officials at Hanford.)

4. In a 1985 study, the United States General Accounting Office (GAO) reviewed the time and attendance records of a county in California to determine if EMA funds were being used as intended. (All EMA jurisdictions are required to maintain time and attendance records.) What GAO found was that time listed by the local coordinator as being spent on attack-related civil defense was actually being spent on such things as participating in Earthquake Week, and conducting a medical exercise in preparation for the Super Bowl. As a result of the study, GAO has recommended that FEMA's management controls be strengthened. The December 1987 report is entitled Civil Defense: FEMA's Management Controls need Strengthening and is available free of charge from the United States General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C. 20548.

5. A National Emergency Management Agency survey recently revealed that states are short $18 million on EMA.

A table of EMA requirements and shortfalls (Federal Share), shows Montana's total current EMA requirements as $1,075,662, a current EMA shortfall of $481,876 and "new organization EMA requirements" as $55,955. (The figures in the table depict Federal Share (50%) requirements only. They do not include the state/local share (50%).

6. A technical guidance document supplementing last year's Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide (NRT-1) is now available. The document -- Technical Guidance for Hazards Analysis -- is available from EPA regional offices or by calling EPA's Title III hotline at 1-800-535-0202.

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DISTRICT II HIGHLIGHTS

There have been two coordinator changes in District II during the last few months:

- Liberty County...Rodney Keith has resigned as coordinator. Ernestine "Ernie" Mader has been appointed to replace Rod. Some of you may remember Ernie as she attended the last conference as Rod's Deputy.

- Toole County...Al Klingler has resigned as coordinator and has been appointed deputy coordinator. Irene Gottfried has been appointed as the coordinator. Most of you know Irene as she was serving as Al's deputy for the last few years.

The big news in the District was the derailment of an Amtrac on the outskirts of Saco. The people of the Town of Saco, Phillips and Valley Counties are to be commended for the excellent manner in which they responded to this emergency.

On June 25th, a joint civil/military meeting was held in Turner. Personnel from Blaine, Hill and Phillips Counties met with U.S. Air Force Personnel to discuss low level practice bombing flights. the Air Force is evaluating this meeting, and if it proves beneficial, and they are capable of supporting such, it may be taken on the road to other local communities. More on that in the near future.

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DISTRICT III HIGHLIGHTS

Drought, drought, drought and fire, fire, and fire is on the minds of all the county commissioners and local coordinators in District III. All the counties in the district have been affected by the continuing effects of the drought and the destructive nature of fires. As of this writing, there are still five active fires within the district.

Other Comments:

Meagher County - Tom Fuhringer, Sheriff/DES coordinator, is in the process of upgrading the counties radio system from low band to high band. Tom has developed a four year communication plan in order to stretch the budget dollars available into a systematic upgrade of the communication system. Tom is also in the process of upgrading the County EOC.

Lewis & Clark County - The Emergency Management Institute of FEMA conducted an Earthquake Exercise in Helena in June. The exercise was conducted at the Helena High School Library and 23 organizations were represented. See related article in this newsletter.

Carbon County - May 7-8, Carbon County was not worried about the drought, as their attention was

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRAINING

MANAGING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS

OBJECT: To give emergency response personnel the ability to manage initial actions at hazardous materials incidents, utilizing the Incident Command System.

DESCRIPTION: A 16-hour course designed to give EMS, law enforcement and fire personnel the information and skills necessary to establish command, perform size-up, develop and implement an action plan, transfer command and organize the incident using the Incident Command System. Authority and responsibility are addressed and a number of HazMat scenarios are used during group work.

CLASS SIZE: 40 Maximum

LENGTH: 16-Hours

STUDENT SELECTION CRITERIA: Emergency responders who may be in a supervisory role at Hazardous Materials Incidents.

REGISTRATION: (406) 761-7885

LOCATION	DATE
Helena VoTech 1115 No. Roberts Helena, MT	April 5-6, 1989
Great Falls VoTech 2100 - 16th Avenue So., Room 106 Great Falls, MT	May 3-4, 1989
Lake County Courthouse Conference Room Polson, MT	October 7-8, 1988
Law Enforcement Academy Bozeman, MT	January 7-8, 1989
Billings VoTech Billings, MT	January 19-20, 1989
Flathead Couunty Justice Center Community Center Kalispell, MT	January 14-15, 1989
Dawson Community College Glendive, MT	December 3-4, 1988
Miles City Community College Miles City, MT	December 15-16, 1988
Missoula VoTech Main Admin. Bldg, Room 12 Missoula, MT	October 20-21, 1988
Lewistown-Fergus Co. Sheriff's Complex, Lower Level Lewistown, MT	January 12-13, 1989
Cottonwood Inn Glasgow, MT	February 11-12, 1989
Butte VoTech Resource Room, Basin Creek Road Butte, MT	February 1-2, 1989
Sheridan County Courthouse Plentywood, MT	November 5-6, 1988
Northern Montana College Havre, MT	March 21-22, 1989

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRAINING

COURSE: An Integrated Approach to Hazardous Materials Response Workshop

DESCRIPTION: This 8-hour workshop is oriented to first responders from fire, emergency medical and law enforcement. Each workshop will be conducted by instructors from these fields. Identification, analysis, response, resources, and coordination will be addressed. Each workshop will be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION: Please call the appropriate Highway Patrol phone number listed with the site you prefer to attend. There will be no registration fee for the workshops.

LOCATION	DATE	REGISTRATION
Big Timber	9/28/88	245-6193
Thompson Falls	10/8/88	543-7766
Circle	10/19/88	365-5238
Wolf Point	10/29/88	365-5238
Fort Benton	11/19/88	453-1121
Chinook	11/30/88	453-1121
Cut Bank	12/7/88	453-1121
Deer Lodge	12/10/88	494-3233
Colstrip	1/7/88	365-5238
Whitehall	2/4/88	494-3233

diverted toward flooding. The Red Lodge area received in excess of 5 inches of rain during a 24 hour period. Basements filled with water, roofs leaked, streams overflowed and wind and snow downed power lines in the area. Damage, both public and private, occurred throughout the area. Carbon County requested and received approval from FEMA to take credit for this actual occurrence as a Full-Scale Exercise.

Park County - As of this writing, Bob Fry, DES coordinator, is on location in Cooke City as a result of the threatening forest fires in the area. Bob is working out of the Park County Mobile EOC, and has developed an evacuation plan for the communities of Cooke City and Silver Gate.

Broadwater County - Ray Doggett, DES coordinator, set up an interim EOC and fire desk at the Winston Fire Station. This action was necessary, because the Warm Springs Creek Fire burned over the Elk Horn Mountains into Broadwater County.

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COMINGS AND GOINGS

Many of the local coordinators in District 4 are going to miss Shannon Heath and the planning assistance she was providing. Shannon has moved to a position at the Department of State Lands. She is working as a mine site reclamation wildlife biologist. Good luck, Shannon, we'll miss you.

Art Zody, Dawson County Civil Defense Director, under went heart by-pass in early August. He was back at home and scheduled to be back at work in early September, but was sent to Billings Deaconess Hospital with a fever and infection August 22. He is expected to be in the Billings hospital for about three weeks. Get well soon, Art.

Bob Musselman has been hired as a Population Protection Planner on the State DES staff. Some of you may know Bob from his days of working for FEMA in the Public Assistance Program. Bob has been temporarily assisting on the update of the State Disaster Plan. His transfer to PPP will give him an opportunity to work with many of the local DES coordinators.

Carroll Huffman, former Granite County DES Coordinator, died in early August following an extended illness. Cards can be sent to Jennie Huffman in care of Granite County Memorial Hospital, Philipsburg, Montana 59858.

We have hired a new RADEF Technician to replace Scott Smith, who resigned to accept a job with the National Guard. Our new man is Bill Davis. He is a Dillon native, so Ed Swetish thinks that particular qualification is more than acceptable for the position. Bill's wife, Marsha, is a free-lance artist. Bill's easy going manner and positive attitude is a real asset to our organization.

Don Sinnott, our Shelter Analyst, resigned at the end of June. Don is still recuperating from the stroke he suffered during heart by-pass surgery last October. We miss his humor and dry wit. Letters can be sent to him at: 1 Michael Court, Helena, MT 59601.

The new Shelter Analyst is James Kujawa. He graduated from the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology with a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering Science. James will be attending some intensive courses to learn the intricacies of shelter survey. But, you should be seeing him in Western Montana before the end of the year.

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AIR CRASH PLANNED FOR OCTOBER

The Air Force will hold its annual off-base field exercise this year with Lewis and Clark County on October 4 at 10:00 a.m. A simulated crash will occur when a C-130 troop transport dropping paratroopers over Fort Harrison collides in mid-air with a State Lands Jet Ranger two-place helicopter. This scenario will produce 35 casualties and six fatalities and numerous problems for the response agencies, which will include the Veteran's Administration, the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Office, Search and Rescue, St. Peter's Hospital Ambulance Service, Capitol City Amateur Radio Club, Helena Fire Dept., the Lewis and Clark County Coroner, the Air Force and the DES Coordinator.

The joint Air Force/County Exercise Design Team has been meeting for the past year to plan for the two-day exercise, which will last until 4:00 p.m. on October 5. The Air Force will provide the mock casualties, who will be made up with moulage by the Montana Health Department's EMS Bureau. An Air Force C-130 will fly over Fort Harrison in a low-level pass to kick off the exercise. The crash will be simulated by five burning barrels of diesel fuel and parts of a wrecked aircraft.

The purpose of the exercise is to test local and military plans to respond to a collision of a state and Air Force aircraft over a National Guard base adjacent to a V.A. Hospital. The Air Force response calls for the base commander to fly in on a helicopter with his staff to coordinate the recovery operation with local authorities. A convoy of support personnel from Malmstrom A.F.B. will arrive by nightfall to begin the crash investigation, which will last through the next day.

A debriefing will be held at 4:00 p.m. at the Fort Harrison Service Club, with a thank-you spaghetti dinner hosted by the Helena Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee at the club at 6:00 p.m., for all participants. General James Duffy, the National Guard Adjutant General, will be the guest speaker.

Observers are welcome to attend the exercise. If you plan to observe, please contact Paul Spengler at 443-1010, Ext. 285. Spectators will be assigned to an area on the grounds and will not be allowed to wander around the exercise field.

- Paul Spengler -

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DAM SAFETY WORKSHOPS

Montana's new dam safety law requires that all high hazard dams, which are those that pose a threat to life if they are breached, obtain a permit from the state for their operation. One requirement for receiving an operation permit is the development of an emergency action plan for the dam. This workshop will provide the dam owner with an explanation of the importance for an emergency action plan and instruction on what is required to be in the plan and who needs to be involved in its development. Other affected parties are invited to attend.

- Mike Oelrich -

HELENA ALL SHOOK UP (Cute, huh?)

Helena had a 6.1 Richter Scale earthquake on June 22 during the FEMA Earthquake/Integrated Emergency Management Course held for four days during that week. Over 60 students attended from 21 public and private agencies to learn how to cope with an earthquake based upon the four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparation, response and recovery.

The instructors represented the major response functions: fire, law enforcement, public works, EMS and public policy. The course included 2-1/2 days of instruction, a full day response exercise (with lunch provided by McDonald's and the Red Cross) and a four hour recovery exercise to conclude the training.

The course was the local version of the same one held at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. The exercises were based upon realistic problems that would occur in the Helena Valley if a major earthquake strikes. The course coordinators, Pete Vogel and Al Fluman, spent four days in Helena during April to meet with officials about the course and to analyze the earthquake hazards in the area. This resulted in a much more practical exercise than the Central City and Liberty County scenarios used at EMI.

Many lessons were learned during the course, and the students said that it made them much more aware of the consequences of a major earthquake in Helena. Two meetings were held with the participants during the week following the course to discuss the issues raised by the class and the plans required to respond to an earthquake.

- Paul Spengler -

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MONTANA DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION NEWSLETTER

The newsletter needs you! The staff from the State DES office attempts to address topics that are timely and of interest to our readers. However, at times, we struggle to identify topics and write articles.

If you have suggestions for future articles, would like to write a newsletter article, or know someone outside DES who could submit a newsletter article, please contact Mary Arnold.

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MONTANA
DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
DIVISION NEWSLETTER
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TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR
JAMES W. DUFFY, ADJUTANT GENERAL

GEORGE M. DeWOLF
ADMINISTRATOR

The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy.
Mary Arnold, Editor.

Volume 15 Number 3

September 1, 1988

The May 1988 issue of the DES Newsletter was printed at a cost of $99.56. Mailing costs were $69.30 for a total of .70 cents per copy.

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

SEP 22 1988

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